

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01578 301606Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 NSC-05
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, BC, US
SUBJECT: DRAFT US/BOTSWANA CONSULAR CONVENTION

REF: STATE 075495

1. DURING CONVERSATION MAY 24 WITH CHIEF LEGAL DRAFTSMAN OF
GOB ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS DAVID JONES, EMBOFF MADE LOW-
KEY

INQUIRY CONCERNING GOB CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT CONSULAR
CONVENTION. JONES REPLIED THAT ASSISTANT ATTORNEY-GENERAL
E.W.M.J. LEGWAILA HAS BEEN TASKED WITH INITIAL CONSIDERATION
OF TREATY DRAFT SINCE HE NORMALLY HANDLES MATTERS OF INTER-
NATIONAL LAW WITHIN ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS. ACCORDING
TO JONES, LEGWAILA HAS HAD LITTLE TIME TO FOCUS ON PROPOSED
CONSULAR CONVENTION, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF HIS PREOCCUPATION
WITH RECENTLY CONCLUDED VII SESSION OF LAW OF THE SEA CON-
FERENCE. JONES SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY CHECK WITH LEGAILA
"IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS" TO REMIND HIM OF OUR CONTINUED
INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED TREATY.

2. ACCORDING TO JONES, SOME GOB OFFICIALS ARE SKEPTICAL OF
CONSULAR TREATY BELIEVING THAT IT WILL SOMEHOW BENEFIT
U.S. MORE THAN BOTSWANA. HE SAID THIS PERCEPTION WAS
PROBABLY BASED MORE ON A GENERALIZED SKEPTICISM AMONG
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"THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES" OF THE INTENTIONS OF DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES RATHER THAN SPECIFIC DISTRUST OF U.S. OR DIS-
SATISFACTION WITH TREATY DRAFT. HE PREDICTED, HOWEVER,
THAT GOB WOULD ULTIMATELY AGREE TO NEGOTIATE TREATY,
ALTHOUGH IT WOULD NOT ENJOY A HIGH PRIORITY IN THE WORK
OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS.
NORLAND

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